

# Girton Parish Council

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The Pavilion  
Girton Recreation Ground  
Cambridge Road, Girton  
Cambridge CB3 0FH

## Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16 April 2008 at St Vincent's Close Community Centre, 7.30pm

**Present:** D de Lacey (Chair), S Clift, J Ford-Smith, V Godby, R Gordon, R Hodgkinson, L Sparling, M Taylor, J Thorrold (from 08/56), M Wilson

**Action/Power**

4 members of the public were present to item 08/52.3 and 2 speakers for item 08/52.2.

### **08/50 Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs P Starling, Martin, Hiley, Bullman, C Starling and Cllr Reynolds.

### **08/51 Members' declarations of interests**

None declared.

### **08/52 Open Session for Public**

Cllr de Lacey prop to suspend Standing Orders, sec Cllr Gordon, carried unanimously.

1. **Members of the Public.** R Carter spoke on behalf of the GOSH campaign (to stop the withdrawal of the free school bus to IVC) and he thanked the parish council for their support. He expressed his disappointment that Cllr Reynolds was not present. Cllr Taylor commented that he had been very impressed with the quality of the campaign. Cllr de Lacey agreed.
2. **John Clarke, Public Liaison Officer Costain Skanska and Geoff Chatfield, Highways Agency re A14 improvements.** Cllr de Lacey introduced Geoff Chatfield and John Clarke. G Chatfield said they wanted to bring the Council up to date with the A14 Ellington to Fen Drayton improvements. The 'preferred route' had been announced and the contractors Costain and Skanska appointed for the first section (Ellington to Fen Drayton). He explained that the contractors had been taken on before the contract was finalised in order that the HA could take advantage of their expertise to improve the scheme at the planning stage. Atkins will be their designer. G Chatfield said that the scheme is likely to go to a public enquiry before approval, during which time the second section go out to tender. The design is expected to be finalised by the end of 2008 when public exhibitions will be held. They hope to publish Draft Orders (planning application) in Spring 2009; the public enquiry end of 2009; work to start end of 2010; the whole scheme completed by 2014/15.  
J Clarke said they would welcome input from the parish council and asked for questions.
  - Q. Will the scheme work? Congestion increases to fill the available space (Say's Law).
  - A. We have quite sophisticated techniques for modelling traffic so we will have a good idea of usage. We are modelling traffic for 15 years after the completion date and believe the road should be adequate to 2029.
  - Q. Is the model publicly available?
  - A. Yes.
  - Q. Do you model how many accidents it will reduce by?
  - A. Yes. We try to estimate on how many accidents we will save. We take into account traffic delays, the affect on the environment etc.
  - Q. How will noise be reduced?
  - A. Research into noise reduction is not yet complete but part of the 'orders' is to produce a report on this.
  - Q. How will you coordinate with the Northstowe planners and the County Council to liaise with the parish with regard to road closures?
  - A. We liaise closely with the County Council and developers at Northstowe. All works on the Cambridge bypass will be carried out at night and the Council will be given advance warning. I suggest you make representations to the CC expressing your concerns.

- Q. Will there be any problem with the release of money to get the work done?
- A. The Government has not formally committed itself to this scheme. We have been given £24 million to take to the likely public enquiry.
- Q. Is it part of the plan that the improvements coincide with Northstowe?
- A. It is a coincidence – we are well aware of and working with the developers at Northstowe and as the A14 currently stands the HA will not allow extra traffic on to the A14, so the developers are improving the Dry Drayton Road hence the Planning Application for the Dry Drayton Road upgrade as part of the Northstowe scheme.
- Q. You say you are not going to increase landtake but the impermeable area must increase - what steps will you take to try and restrain run-off and avoid the impact on flooding?
- A. We expect the rate of run-off will be exactly the same as at the moment. We are looking to minimise landtake. Attenuation will include the possibility of containing water under the A14. Removing pollutants is a requirement. We are designing on the latest 1-in-100 year flood figures.
- The Chairman thanked G Chapman and J Clarke for their presentation. Mr Chapman encouraged further questions if wanted.
- 3. Police report.** Cllr de Lacey reported that PCSO Mahoney would not be able to attend parish council meetings because of her regular clinic at Bar Hill. We do not yet know who the police officer for Girton that Cllr Reynolds mentioned is. PCSO Mahoney supplied a report of crime figures 16 March to 15 April. Cllr Clift offered to keep an eye on crime trends in the village.
- 4. District Councillors' reports.** No reports received.
- 5. County Councillor's report.** No report received.
- 6. Girton Town Charity.** Cllr Hiley provided the following report:
- 1) SCDC have released the Right of Way over the land that is to become the Community Land at Wellbrook Way. This means that there is no worry for the PC that some of the land might be lost to vehicular access to the SCDC land behind the old council houses in Girton Road.
  - 2) The Town charity paid just over £5000 for the After-School Activities at Girton Glebe School in the last term. This is the bulk of the cost of the programme, a fact that seems not to be widely known in the village. Note the activities are open to children who have to attend primary school outside the village.
  - 3) The Trustees considered the campaign to retain the IVC transport for those children living outside the free travel zone to be a political issue. As such it is a non-charitable purpose and the Charity is unable to help.
  - 4) The Trustees have appointed Nick Twitchet as architectural and development adviser for the proposed new almshouses on Wellbrook Way.
- 7. Youth Works.** No report received.
- 8. Footpaths and Rights of Way.** No report received.

**08/53 Standing Orders reinstated**

Prop Cllr de Lacey, sec Cllr Ford-Smith, unanimous.

**08/54 That the unconfirmed Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 19 March 2008 be approved**

Prop Cllr Sparling, sec Cllr Godby, unanimous.

**08/55 Matters arising from the minutes**

The Clerk has taken action on all the items arising from the minutes (marked HB).

**08/56 Co-option of new Councillor to replace Cllr Mayfield**

Mr John Thorrold was co-opted onto the Council and welcomed by Cllr de Lacey.

**08/57 That the unconfirmed Minutes of the Sport and Recreation Committee be received**

The minutes were received.

**08/58 That the Council approve the attached letter to be sent to the Office of Children and Young People's Services at Cambridge County Council**

Cllr de Lacey noted the corrections to the text from Cllr Martin and prop to accept this letter, sec Cllr Ford-Smith, unanimous.

HB

**08/59 To approve the Agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting on 8 May 2008**

Prop Cllr de Lacey, sec Cllr Sparling, unanimous.

**08/60 To approve the NALC Direct Information Service subscription renewal**

Cllr de Lacey prop to accept the three year subscription, sec Cllr Gordon. Cllr Ford-Smith questioned whether we are allowed to spend money ahead of receipt of the precept. The Clerk would investigate the legality: with this proviso the motion was put. Unanimous.

HB

**08/61 To appoint a Chairman and Vice-chairman for the Wellbrook Committee**

Cllr de Lacey said that the progress on the community land at Wellbrook Way had ground to a halt since Cllr Barrett had resigned but Noel Knights is prepared to act as necessary. For legal reasons, as a non Council member he could not chair the Committee, so Cllr de Lacey prop Cllr Ford-Smith for Chair and Cllr Clift as Vice-Chairman. Sec Cllr Wilson, unanimous.

**08/62 That reports from Parish Councillors be received**

1. Cllr Sparling reported that the developers of 2 High Street had spilled gravel on to the High Street which was a danger to cyclists. He also said he was disappointed by the wording of the new signs for Girton which he felt were not very welcoming. The Clerk reported complaints about the positioning the village sign on the Oakington Road which was not on the parish boundary. Cllr Clift said the village signs had probably been located where they are because they have to be a certain distance from the 30mph signs.
2. Cllr Taylor reported that the Highway sign on Huntingdon Road had some letters missing.
3. Cllr Gordon said that the footpath surface was particularly bad outside 70 High Street and regularly flooded.
4. Cllr de Lacey reported that Officers from the CC and SCDC had met to look at his proposals for a cycle route out of the southern end of Wellbrook Way. They had approved the plan in principle but may need some financial input from the Council.

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**08/63 Correspondence**

1. CCC – Invitation to Rights of Way Improvement Plan reception event
2. Cambridgeshire ACRE – Local Network Fund Brochure
3. Community Action magazine
4. CCC –Cambridgeshire's Registered Trader Scheme
5. Audit Commission – Confirmation of the appointment of Moore Stephens as auditor
6. CCC – Tackling Congestion in Cambridgeshire – invitation to attend the presentation of the results of the consultation, 6 May, 11-1.30pm at Buckingham House, New Hall
7. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Community Lift Awards 2008 – info brochure
8. CCC – Cambridgeshire County Council's Integrated Plan for 2008
9. CPALC – Information on the consultation on the *RSS Single Issue Review on Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation in the East of England*
10. SCDC – Stakeholder Review (to be completed by 30 April)
11. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Post Office Network Change Group – Post Office closures in Cambridgeshire in 2008
12. NALC – Direct Information Service subscription renewal

**08/64 That payments for the period 13 March to 9 April 2008 be approved**

Payments	19-Mar-08	Combined PC/Rec payments			
Cq no.	Paid To	Description	Gross	VAT	net
1993	Magrini Ltd	Nappy changing unit - pro-forma	279.65	41.65	238.00
1994	Cannon Hygiene	Sanitary disposal	113.05	16.84	96.21

1995	Nigel Childs	Cleaner's fees 4/2-14/3 08	705.00	105.00	600.00
1996	Helen Bracey	Clerk's wages (month 12)	638.63		638.63
1997	Linda Miller	Bookings Administrator wages (month 12) + expenses	471.69		471.69
1998	Inland Revenue	Tax and NI month 12	202.72		202.72
1999	C M R Wilson	Work on Recreation Ground	281.00		281.00
2000	Norman Lewell	Security/Maintenance Officer fees	302.00		302.00
2001	W H Constable & Co Ltd	Glazing for Mayfield Rd bus shelter	257.23	38.31	218.92
2002	Acacia Tree Surgery Ltd	Tree work at Recreation Ground	911.80	135.80	776.00
2003	Stormflame Ltd	Door finger protectors for Pavilion	230.66	34.36	196.30
2004	Prime Plumbing Cambridge Ltd	Installation of shower heads at Pavilion	244.31	36.39	207.92
2005	BSV Construction Services Ltd	External decoration of Pavilion	4,347.50	647.50	3,700.00
2006	Peter T Round	Grounds maintenance March 08	529.49	78.86	450.63
2007	W F Electrical	Lamps for Rec Centre	84.57	12.39	72.18
2008	L J Parker	Erect 2 noticeboards	220.31	32.81	187.50
2009	Mr P Hacker	Travel expenses for Cllr Ford-Smith	50.00		50.00
			9,869.61	1,179.91	8,689.70

Payments were approved, Cllr Gordon prop, sec Cllr Wilson, 8 in favour, 1 abstention.

The meeting closed at 2022hrs.